



Date: August 27, 2007
To: Anthony W. Batts, City Manager
From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Report For Week Ending Friday, August 24, 2007

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending Friday, August 24. It is our hope that the *Focus on Results Long Beach* framework improves our ability to communicate information about the services we provide. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

THIS WEEK IN THE NEWS

FOCUS AREA: LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT & SUPPORT

Citywide

Patrick West has been selected by the Long Beach City Council as the City's new **City Manager**. West has served as the City's Director of Community Development and Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency since August 2005. Prior to joining the City of Long Beach, West was the City Manager of Paramount for 11 years and has served as president of several regional city manager associations. He holds a Master's Degree in Recreation Administration from CSU, Los Angeles and Master's of Business Administration from CSU, Dominguez Hills.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Police

The Long Beach Police Department is recruiting community-focused, career-minded individuals who want to be dedicated police officers. The Police Department, one of the finest in the nation, is committed to building leaders and offers a wide range of assignments and excellent benefits. The deadline to apply is October 31. For more information, visit www.longbeach.gov/police or call 570.6202.

FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION

Long Beach Gas & Oil

The Gas & Oil Department (LBGO) received City Council approval for the issuance of up to \$1.3 billion in bonds to prepay its natural gas supply for 30 years. The deal, believed to be the largest in City history, will allow LBGO to significantly reduce its gas purchase costs, provide significant funding for pipeline reinvestments and greatly decrease risk-exposure to open-market gas purchases and rising costs. Annually, LBGO purchases approximately \$75 million of natural gas commodity on behalf of its 145,000 customers. The proposed gas prepay transaction will result in estimated annual cost savings of \$5 million to \$7 million, or approximately \$150 million to \$210 million over 30 years.

**Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

FOCUS AREA: LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT & SUPPORT

Budget Workshops, Hearings Offer Residents Opportunity to be Involved. A series of workshops and hearings in September will provide residents and businesses the opportunity to participate in the Fiscal Year 2008 Budget process. To review the City Manager's Proposed Budget, the Mayor's Budget Recommendations and the schedule of upcoming workshops and hearings, visit www.longbeach.gov.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

Residents are invited to attend a workshop on ***Emergency Preparedness*** on **Monday, August 27**, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at the Neighborhood Resource Center, 425 Atlantic Ave. Participants will learn how to create an emergency household plan, including preparing a disaster supply kit and a first aid kit. Other topics include: Emergency Preparedness Tips: Five Days of Self-Reliance; and the city's new *Reverse 911* Emergency Notification program. The workshop will also provide information about the City's plan in case of a disaster. For more information, call 570.1010.

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS & ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Community Development, Workforce Development

Job seekers can explore, and interview for, job opportunities at the **Workforce Development Bureau's Job Fair 2007** on Tuesday, **August 28**, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Long Beach Convention Center. The annual Job Fair features a broad range of employers, including the Automobile Club of Southern California and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Information about education and training for high-demand career fields will also be available. For more information, call 570.3700 or visit www.longbeachworkforce.org.

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION & LEISURE

Community Development, Housing Services

The **Northpointe Photo Project**, a class taught by Pulitzer-prize winning photographer Marissa Roth, will be on exhibit in the **Main Library** until **September 5**. The free class introduced the art of visual storytelling to youth at Northpointe Apartments, a City of Long Beach affordable housing community. A documentary about the project will air Friday, August 31, at 6:30 pm on Cable Channel 3. For more information, call 570.6949.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Health and Human Services

Residents are invited to a ***When Disaster Strikes*** workshop on **Monday, September 10**, at the Parr Enhancement Center on the St. Mary Medical Center Campus, 1050 Linden Ave. Featured speakers are the Health Educator with the Public Health Emergency Management Program, City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services, and the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator at St. Mary Medical Center Disaster Resource Center. The event starts at 5:00 pm with a free dinner and access to information booths. Free validated parking will be available. For more information, call 570.1010.

AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION & LEISURE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Business Operations Bureau

For the second time in three years, Long Beach has been selected as one of the top dog-friendly cities in the country by *Dog Fancy* magazine. The magazine cited the three-acre Long Beach Dog Zone, the two-acre Recreation Dog Park, and *Haute Dogs*, a local network of dog owners, educators, rescuers, and supporters who coordinate educational outreach and events, encourage responsible ownership practices, and offer practical adoption and rescue opportunities.

MORE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS & ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival

About 800 youth sailed on *American Pride, the Tall Ship* for three hours. Youth were taught the history of the ship and sailing techniques. Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe generously provided \$10,000 for bus transportation. The American Heritage Marine Institute (AHMI), in partnership with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, sponsored this event.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

Approximately 1,200 people attended the *Long Beach Grand Cru* at the Rainbow Lagoon on August 18.

A cast and a crew of 80 filmed a TV production *Life On Mars* on Linden Avenue on August 23.

A cast and a crew of 125 filmed a TV production *Dexter* on the beach at 1st Place, 3rd Street and Elm Avenue, and on the Queens Way Bridge on August 23 and 24.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Health and Human Services

More than 150 Queen Mary employees attended a **Health Fair** on **August 22**, and learned about Health Department programs and services, including how to develop a communications plan for emergencies. Staff provided family emergency planning guides and other disaster-preparedness information.

City Health Officer Helene Calvet, MD, and staff attended the **Rough and Ready 2007** training event in Los Alamitos. Rough & Ready 2007 was designed to enhance California's medical response capabilities and to provide a scenario for practicing patient treatment skills in a field environment after a major disaster (e.g., no power, water, fuel, communications, etc.).

Fire

Fire responded to a total of 989 emergency calls for service: 111 calls for fires with 10 involving structures. It also responded to 811 emergency medical calls; 538 requiring paramedics.

MORE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION & LEISURE

Library Services

The new **Mark Twain Library**, 1401 E. Anaheim St., attracted more than 10,000 visitors in its first week, and continues to average more than 1,200 patrons a day. The Library opened on Saturday, August 11, with scores of environmentally friendly features.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

Approximately 677 visitors got muddy and learned all about adobe at Rancho Los Cerritos' annual **Mud Mania** on August 19. Families stomped adobe mud and formed bricks, made model adobes complete with windows and doors, threw pots on a potter's wheel, wrote their names and cuneiform symbols on clay tablets, and learned about vermiposting (the practice of using worms to make compost by feeding them food waste) and other ways to improve the local soil. More than 80 volunteers helped.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

Approximately 400 people enjoyed music and dance performances during the annual **Family Night** events at El Dorado West and Veterans Parks.

More than 870 people attended Admiral Kidd, DeForest and Cesar E. Chavez Parks for the presentation of the movie *Barney*, as part of the **Movies in the Parks** summer series.

A total of 45 teen volunteers from El Dorado West Park attended the annual **Teen Volunteer Appreciation** celebration held at Gameworks. Teens received dinner, awards, and letters of recommendations stating their volunteer responsibilities, duties and total volunteer hours, which can be used for their Service Learning component in school.

FOCUS AREA: UTILITIES

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

Staff completed a total of 2,952 service calls. This total included 893 gas and water utility turn-ons, and 923 turn-offs. During this period, 763 customer service orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders and verifying read orders. A total of 256 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 361 emergency phone calls that resulted in 117 emergency orders being sent out.

FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION

Street Construction Report

EXISTING PROJECTS

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2064

Bounded by Carson St., Wardlow Rd., Clark Ave. & Bellflower Blvd.
(Parkcrest, Conant, Stearnlee, Hanbury, Harco & Walkerton)

Estimated completion: Mid September

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MORE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Street Construction Report

EXISTING PROJECTS (continued)

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2074

Location: The Toledo between Geneva Walk & Siena Dr.

Estimated Duration: **Late August**

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2064

Bounded by Long Beach Blvd. & Atlantic Ave; 46th St. & San Antonio Dr.

Estimated completion: **Late October**

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2064

Bounded by 6th St & 4th St; Golden Ave. & Maine St.

Estimated completion: **Mid October**

Water Department, Alley Service Connection Conversion - The Toledo

Contact: 570.2323

The Toledo Between Claremont Ave. and La Verne Ave.

Estimated Completion: **November**

Water Department, Alley Service Connection Conversion - Earl and Locust Avenues Project

Contact: 570.2323

Pine, Earl and Locust Avenues Between 21st St. and Burnett St.

Estimated completion: **October**

Water Department, Long Beach Conjunctive Use Expansion (to store water in underground aquifers for dry year use)

Contact: 570.2326

Near Carson St. and Palo Verde Ave.

Estimated Completion: **April 2008**

AB:KP:ek:dg

cc:

Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
Curtis Tani, Acting Deputy City Manager
City Manager Department Heads
Tom Modica, Government Affairs Manager
Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manager
Cathy Wieder, Assistant to the City Manager